

CRUX number 2

INCORPORATING STIGMATA No.23

NOTE TO READERS: STIGMATA and CRUX, heretofore separate publications, are being combined in this one issue for this year only. In 1987, each will again be published separately (see additional note on back page).

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CRUX - c/o Thomas R. Adams - P.O. Box 1094 - Paris, Texas 75460 USA

cruxnotes

The "theme" for this issue of CRUX, mentioned in CRUX #1, has been held over for the next issue.....Re: Grant Callison's flying critter report on p. 12 - for another account of a "winged wonder" (over Falls City, Nebraska), see the first issue of a new & welcomed publication: JOURNAL OF THE FORTEAN RESEARCH CENTER (P.O. Box 94627; Lincoln, NE 68509).....new books to watch for: (1) A startling account of the personal UFO-related experiences of a best-selling novelist, (2) EXTRA-TERRESTRIALS AMONG US by George Andrews (\$11.45 from Llewellyn Publications; P.O. Box 64383-LF010; St. Paul, MN 55164), (3) LE GRANDE CARNAGE by French researcher Michel Granger, the French view of the mutilation situation (see also p. 27, this issue).....Late news re: Loren Coleman's article beginning on p. 7, and our commentary on p. 10: Several major Texas newspapers have published in-depth retrospectives on the life & misdeeds of Charles Whitman, these articles appearing in mid-summer 1986, 20 years later. Since we were responsible for Coleman's assimilation of "Samuel"'s tale, we must hasten to report that there is no evidence whatsoever that Whitman ever spent any time in New Orleans.....More on the document discussed on pp. 3-4: Another military source informs us that "ORCON" means ORiginator CONTROLled; i.e., that the document is not to be disseminated without permission or direction from the agency originating the message.....Next time, we'll discuss if and why we should all plan to meet at Capulin Mountain Nat. Mon., New Mexico, on March 12, 1992.

LITE UFOLOGY

PERUVIAN UFO/MILITARY RUN-IN

In response to his Freedom of Information Act request for information on UFOs, Ray W. Boeche of the Fortean Research Center in Lincoln, Nebraska, received a selection of documents from the Defense Intelligence Agency in late 1985. A number of foreign reports were included, as well as several references to Project Moon Dust, which other sources have described as the retrieval of fallen spacecraft or space debris of unknown origin (some suggest that UFOs easily fall within the purview of this project). One of the documents Boeche received is identified as from the Joint Chiefs of Staff Message Center and is concerned with events in Peru in May 1980. The summary of the event is as follows:

Source reported that a UFO was spotted on two different occasions near Peruvian Air Force (FAP) base in southern Peru. The FAP tried to intercept and destroy the UFO, but without success.

The document then provides details:

Source told RD about the spotting of an unidentified flying object in the vicinity of Mariano Melgar Air Base, La Joya, Peru.....Source stated that the vehicle was spotted on two different occasions. The first was during the morning hours of 9 May 80, and the second during the early evening hours of 10 May 80.

Source stated that on 9 May, while a group of FAP officers were in formation at Mariano Melgar, they spotted a UFO that was round in shape, hovering near the airfield. The air commander scrambled an SU-22 aircraft to make an intercept. The pilot, according to a third party, intercepted the vehicle and fired upon it at very close range without causing any apparent damage. The pilot tried to make a second pass on the vehicle, but the UFO out-ran the SU-22.

The second sighting was during hours of darkness. The vehicle was lighted. Again an SU-22 was scrambled, but the vehicle out-ran the aircraft.

"AQUARIAN" REVELATIONS?

For several years ufologists have been scrambling for clues and definitive information regarding "Project Aquarius" which, it has been suggested, is a very crucial UFO-related operation, possible involving "official" contact and relations with extraterrestrial ufonauts. Rumors abound. Hard facts are virtually nonexistent. In 1986, a Texas researcher filed an FOIA request with the "Puzzle Palace", the National Security Agency, for records and information pertaining to Project Aquarius. The NSA replied that a document relating to his request had been located but that the request for information was denied. In a letter (April 1986) the NSA stated that the document must remain classified Top Secret and that.....

The document is classified because its disclosure could reasonably be expected

to cause exceptionally grave damage to the national security. Because the document is currently and properly classified, it is exempt from disclosure pursuant to the first exemption of the FOIA (5 U.S.C. section 552(b)(1)). In addition, this Agency is authorized by various statutes to protect certain information concerning its activities. We have determined that such information exists in this document.

MORE "REVELATIONS"?

A one-page document has been circulating among ufologists for several months. Our copy is too poor for reproduction here but, as it is not lengthy, we will describe it here. The page, at top and bottom, has been stamped "Top Secret" in large letters, but then stamped "Unclassified" in smaller letters. There is no letterhead or departmental identification. Typed near the top of the page is the phrase: "Sub Projects Under Project". There is no obvious "blackening out" of the name of the project, although other words in the text of the document, when censored, are plainly "blackened out". The text consists of three paragraphs, typed double-spaced. The paragraphs are numbered 2, 3 and 4. Either the first paragraph was effectively "whitened out" above paragraph no.2 (There is space for what could have been a first paragraph) or this is the second page of a larger document. The text of the document is as follows:

2. (TS/ORCON) PROJECT SIGMA: (PROWORD: (censored)). Originally established as part of Project (censored) in 1954. Became a separate project in 1976. Its mission was to establish communication with Aliens. This Project met with positive success when in 1959, the United States established primitive communications with the Aliens. On April 25, 1964, a USAF intelligence Officer, met two Aliens at a pre-arranged location in the desert of New Mexico. The contact lasted for approximately three hours. (censored), the Air Force officer managed to exchange basic information with the two Aliens (Atch 7). This project is continuing at an Air Force base in New Mexico. (OPR: (censored))

3. (TS/ORCON) PROJECT SNOWBIRD: (PROWORD: (censored)). Originally established in 1972. Its mission was to test fly a recovered Alien aircraft. This project is continuing in Nevada. (censored)

4. (TS/ORCON) PROJECT (censored): (censored). Originally established in 1968. Its mission was to evaluate all UFO (censored) information pertaining to space technology. PROJECT POUNCE continues (censored)

We have been given a number of interpretations of "TS/ORCON". Some say "TS" means "Top Secret", or "Technical Services". It may be neither. The Defense Intelligence Agency has informed CRUX that "'ORCON' is a dissemination control marking used by government agencies to limit distribution of documents, correspondence, etc."

About "Project Sigma": Its description resembles some descriptions we have heard for Project Aquarius (see above). There have long been rumors of "official" contact with aliens, back to President Eisenhower in 1954 and beyond, including an account of a landing-contact in New Mexico, which some place at Holloman Air Force Base. One story has it that the famous Lonnie

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Zamora-witnessed Socorro landing of April 24, 1964 was a "mistake" - that a landing and official communication was planned, all right. But that, with communications with the aliens being somewhat problematical, they ended up landing on the wrong day (April 24th instead of April 25th) and that they landed at the wrong coordinates (Socorro, instead of Holloman AFB). Next day, they got in right (so, what happened at La Madera, NM on April 26th? More on that in a later issue). And, indeed, Lonnie Zamora saw two humanoids. So this document & the description of Project Sigma would appear to back up some of these earlier rumors.

About "Project Snowbird": the ufological grapevine has suggested (as a result of leaks from within the military/intelligence community) that the infamous Cash-Landrum case near Houston in December 1980 was a "Project Snowbird" operation - that the craft seen (& felt) by the three witnesses was an alien craft which the U.S. government had modified and was attempting to fly. And, separate rumors have persisted over the years that a program matching the description of Project Snowbird has been underway in Nevada. So, again, the document ostensibly provides support for these allegations.

About "Project Pounce": In response to a FOIA request from a Hawaiian investigator, the National Technical Information Service (NTIS) provided an abstract of a 1983 report titled "Surveillance/Pounce Model". There is no reference to UFOs nor to 1968, but the abstract, as follows, is of interest:

A force of mobile targets is subject to a long period of surveillance, followed by a sudden application of force (the 'pounce'). Some targets will escape the pounce because they have not been recently enough localized by the surveillance system. The problems considered are the division of a budget between surveillance and pounce, the allocation of pounce forces to targets, and the description of how the fraction of targets that survives the pounce depends on the budget.

Many questions remain regarding the potential validity or spuriousness of this document or partial-document. Is it a hoax, drawing some loose ends as conveniently together as it does. Was it released "mistakenly" as a result of a FOIA request? Or was it a direct leak from within the military/intelligence community, where a group of advocates feel that some of the "TRVTH" about UFOs should be released to the public, albeit slowly? As for the origin of the paper, it has been traced back to a California ufologist, who supposedly received a visit from intelligence agents in regard to his possession of the document.

JUST ANOTHER DAY AT THE LAKE

Harlingen, Texas - Wednesday, August 21, 1985 & Friday, August 23, 1985: A woman & her two boys were walking around the Harlingen City Lake Wed. night. They saw a triangular-shaped object hanging silently over the lake. It began following them, and they ran. The woman tripped over rocks, banging up her knees. The three hid under trees while the object "searched" for them with a "spotlight". Finally, they ran home & called the police. On Friday night, the two boys saw the object again. They couldn't coax their mother into going out to see it (or be seen) again, so they enlisted a woman who lived nearby. She had heard about the Wednesday event, but didn't pay much

attention to the story, as she knew the woman witness to be a heavy drinker. But the boys were obviously excited about something; so she went with them to the lake and, sure enough, there it was. She described the object as triangular, with three "beautiful blue lights" along the outside of 2 of the triangle's "angles". The park was full of people. Teenage boys were throwing rocks at it, yelling "Hey, you got a good-looking girl up there?" and "You want a Bud Lite?". Unknown whether it could be related: For at least a year before the August 1985 sightings, there had been other reports of three "gorgeous blue lights" floating around the Harlingen area. However, they were of three different sizes and were three different shades of blue.

WE HAVE SEEN UFONAUTS AND THEY ARE US?

We are interested in the possibility that some aspects of the UFO phenomenon may be explained by terrestrially-originated technology (like remotely-piloted vehicles - RPV's - for instance). An Ohio correspondent writes:

I was privileged once to get in on the observance of a real, genuine, solid, tangible UFO model under construction where I was once an employee at Goodyear Aerospace Corp. (now Goodyear Atomic!) in Akron for three years back in the mid-60's. I had "blue, secret" clearance then and the individual who showed me the UFO in a special hanger there had "red, top secret" clearance. At that time I was not allowed to disclose what I had seen due to just the fact that I was an employee. We were under the threat of a Federal fine and imprisonment if we talked about matters "secret" or "top secret". Of course, now, it no longer applies. Anyhow, I found out later, through Mrs. C. (ed.note: name on file at CRUX) that a (ufo investigator - name on file) had phoned her about OTHER former employees of G.A.C. having seen the same thing I did. (Mrs. C.) then proceeded to tell (the investigator) that I had seen it back in 1967. (The investigator) then asked me to come over to his place to identify pictures he had of it (taken by someone who sighted the UFO over in Indiana) upon which I did. It is commonly referred to as the "Zip Craft" and is now known to fly in excess of 10,000 mph and is test-flown now and then throughout mainly Ohio, Indiana and Kentucky. The model I saw was still in the construction stages but looked to be of an aluminum-type material, flat surface with a dome in the middle, no visible portholes, about 20 feet in width, smooth as silk, antenna on top of dome, etc. I believe it was only about 60% completed so the description cannot be totally accurate as I did not see a complete "Zip" with my own eyes other than in (the investigator's) photos and slides. To this day I have no idea how G.A.C. could have constructed a UFO capable of fantastic speeds, but my feeling is that some of the ideas may have come from knowledge obtained from inspection of crashed UFOs.....Whatever the case may be, I do feel our government knows one helluva lot they're not telling the masses about. I feel one reason for the censorship is due to the fact that the whole UFO picture is so confusing and ever so complex.

Along these same lines, do any CRUX readers have knowledge of the success or efficacy of a flying-saucer-like commuter aircraft called the "XM-4"? It was announced as being available to the public several years ago (early 1980's). The manufacturer-or-distributor was the Moller Corporation (Dr. P.S. Moller, President); 1222 Research Park Drive; Davis, CA 95616.

THE GALLUP WATCH

The following are events variously reminiscent of the "Gallup Incident" and similar events that we reported on in CRUX #1 in 1985:

Kansas City, Missouri - Sunday, November 4, 1984

Two loud booming sounds blasted across several counties in the Kansas City Metropolitan area. They occurred seconds apart, around 4:00 P.M. Numerous calls from concerned residents were fielded by law enforcement agencies in south Kansas City and in Jackson, Johnson and Cass Counties. Officials stumbled over themselves in attempting to explain the blasts. Fingers were first pointed at Richards-Gebaur Air Force Base where military exercises were suspected. Blasting during road construction was also announced as a possible cause, and then the detonation of wastes by the Environmental Protection Agency. All these agencies denied involvement. Apparently, the Kansas City Chiefs were involved in a particularly odious football game on television, and it was suggested the booms were produced by disgruntled fans quacking their TVs all over town. The mystery booms remained just that (KANSAS CITY TIMES, KANSAS CITY STAR; Nov. 5, 1984). Paul Schaeffer of Kansas City's Ground Zero Club (to whom we're indebted for info on this event) saw the following letter of his published in the K.C.STAR(11-12-84):

The article, "Source of those big booms on Sunday remains a mystery", reminded me of Dr. Nikola Tesla. He was the inventor of the alternating electrical system of power which we are presently using. During the early part of this century Dr. Tesla created similar booms by discharging electrical energy into the atmosphere which on occasion resulted in destructive vibrations in various structures.

If Patrick Breheny of the Federal Emergency Management Agency did not cause these booms by kicking his TV set during a Chiefs game perhaps the war games at Richards-Gebaur may have been the source of some electrical discharge which did.

Washington to California - Thursday night, September 18, 1985

A series of bright lights - red, gold, orange and silver - was observed around 10:30 PM from Seattle to San Francisco. "The most spectacular thing I've seen in my life", said one witness. The light (singular, though multiple lights were seen in some areas) was reported traveling horizontally from west to east. One woman in Brookings, Oregon, said lights covered "three quarters of the sky". NORAD and the Oregon Museum of Science and Industry later announced that the lights were due to falling debris from a Soviet Soyuz T-14 booster rocket. (UPI, 9-21-85)

Jefferson County, Missouri - Tuesday, May 26, 1970

The ST. LOUIS GLOBE-DEMOCRAT (5-27-70) reported that Mrs. Elida Kent was working in her garden near Festus, Missouri around 9:00 AM Tuesday morning when she heard an explosion. She turned around to see a "red-hot" cylindri-

cal object about two inches long in the grass. It remained hot for ten or fifteen minutes, then became heavily charred. Neighbors heard the explosion. The object was turned over to the Jefferson County Sheriff's Office.

Emmet County, Iowa - Saturday, May 10, 1879

An apparent meteorite fell near Estherville around 3:00 in the afternoon. Chunks of it would end up being turned into rings, ornaments and watch charms. Residents first saw it about 30 miles west of Estherville. It began as a crackling, sizzling, roaring sound. Looking up, observers saw a "large ball of fire", emitting tongues and sparks of fire. Writer Don Buchan, in CAPPERS WEEKLY (May 2, 1972), repeated an account of the event written by a pioneer Iowa attorney, John W. Cory, Sr.:

"The tail...was characterized by a very strong smell of fire and sulfur and was of a blackish color, being very much like a bushy tail in appearance.... It divided into three parts and each had the same appearance as the original. The main meteor fell with such force as to be entirely embedded into the earth from 12 to 20 feet, mashing everything in its way and leaving a large open cavern in the ground.

There was controversy over the ownership of the object(s). Buchan writes that the largest piece weighed 437 pounds and measured 22 by 27 by 15 inches. A second piece, which fell on another farm, weighed 151 pounds. A portion of the object ended up on display in the Estherville Public Library. Other pieces ended up in the British Museum in London and at the university of Minnesota. The object(s) was said to have been composed of "iron, nickel, phosphorus, sulfur and an unknown substance merely called Estherville metal.

The Occult, MIBs, UFOs and Assassinations

LOREN COLEMAN

Copyright by Loren Coleman

Serious students of the political assassinations of the 1960's and the researchers of Fortean ("the strange and the unknown") have begun to see a surprising number of overlaps between their two fields. Perhaps assassination research is becoming such a mature artform it is allowing the reverberations of the supposed lunatic fringe to seep into its domain. Or is the ever continuing search for clues and hints to the "truth" leading assassobuffs into an area populated by umbrella men, mystery tramps, and the elusive men-in-black (MIBs), those strangely dark-clothed characters who have terrorized UFO investigators since 1947? Whatever the reasons, a bizarre number of links are beginning to be discussed.

Some of the things you hear making the rounds these days have to be taken with the proverbial grain of salt. Some others don't. What pigeonhole a common West Coast tale about Sirhan Sirhan knowing Charlie Manson belongs

in, is anyone's guess. Supposedly, Sirhan and Manson got to know each other on some occult level when they were on the same cellblock in somewhere prison, California, somewhen, but long before Manson Family member Squeaky Fromme's botched attempt on President Ford's life. If a meeting ever did occur, they probably had a lot to talk about. Like Jacson, the axe-wielding assassin of Leon Trotsky, after Sirhan's arrest for allegedly killing Robert Kennedy, Sirhan calmly requested a copy of The Secret Doctrine. This occult bible was published in the 1890's by Madame Blavatsky who said she was the disciple of a cluster of "secret masters". Charles Manson's interest in warlockery, astral projection, magic and hypnotism went back many years. Sirhan Sirhan's special interest in hypnotism is a key part of Donald Freed's theory in the semi-fictional The Killing Of RFK. Freed feels Sirhan was controlled and used. And was also the alleged killer of Martin Luther King, James Earl Ray? When Ray was captured in London, among his possessions were four paperbacks on hypnosis.

Charlie Manson's use of hypnotism was for the control he could effect over others. But before he was to have a say in the destiny of lives in California, some people tell of a weird intrigue of his in New Orleans, an important city in the John Kennedy assassination conspiracy theories. Supposedly, Charles Manson, Janis Joplin and Charles Whitman among "others" were all part of a loose-knit New Orleans coven. Charles Whitman, of course, was the sniper who made the University of Texas Tower at Austin so infamous. One source of this account comes from a former member of the coven we shall call "Samuel". After leaving the coven, Samuel became deeply involved in UFO research until a "mysterious stranger" visited him and his associates several times and induced them to hand over all their files. This pattern follows the weird men-in-black accounts which have been popping up in UFO circles for years, and recently have been recounted by assassination buffs who find themselves being silenced. But one wonders, who would be interested in terrorizing teen-agers, little old ladies and amateur researchers into giving up their shoe boxes filled with yellowing news clippings on the Kennedy assassination or flying saucer sightings? Whomever and whatever, it was enough to make Samuel drop UFOs and move to Dallas. There he now teaches yoga, the sufi disciplines and astrology, and infrequently talks of his days in the Manson-Joplin-Whitman coven in New Orleans.

New Orleans. David Ferrie. Lee Harvey Oswald. How many times have we heard of this trinity in the last few years. David Ferrie, Cia contract pilot and Oswald's supposed contact man, was involved in some strange goings-on before his sudden death only days after Jim Garrison's conspiracy investigations were publicized. In the late 1940's, Ferrie stopped studying for the priesthood and became a commercial pilot in Ohio. From there, Ferrie was whisked, probably as a U-2 pilot, into the 1950's by the CIA whom he had to thank for the loss of his body and head hair. After the Bay of Pigs, we find David Ferrie in New Orleans as the self-appointed high priest in a small religious sect called the Apostolic Old Catholic Church of North America. Some members of the church were Tom Beckham and Jack S. Martin who with Ferrie and Oswald worked out of Guy Bannister's Lafayette/Camp Street office and figured in the Garrison investigation. The church conducted ser-

vices involving animal sacrifice and blood guzzling. During Lee Harvey Oswald's last weeks in New Orleans, he attended many ritualistic parties in private homes and apartments with David Ferrie. Ferrie was heavily into black magic and had a strong working knowledge of hypnotism. Ferrie was even to use hypnotism as one of the romantic controls over his gay lovers. But how engrossed was Lee Harvey Oswald in Ferrie's hypnotic powers? Oswald felt he was a "patsy". The nefarious projects of assassination conspirators could easily have as one of their important elements people who practice or follow occult doctrines. A James Earl Ray? Sirhan Sirhan? Lee Harvey Oswald? David Ferrie? Charlie Manson and Squeaky? Such visionary neurotics may be easy dupes, and hypnosis may be a key.

In the end, though, theorizing on matters of connections between the occult and political murders is a shadowy practice, at best. The link goes to the depth of the meaning of the very word "occult", for the affairs of assassinations are indeed "hidden". It is the occasional break in this veil surrounding these esoteric happenings which investigators have learned to examine, analyze and dissect. One such uncanny but concrete fissure is the personage of the late Fred Lee Crisman.

Fred Lee Crisman apparently was a cloudy figure in Dealey Plaza on the 22nd of November, 1963. But first, let us shoot back to 1947. It is the 21st of June, three days before Kenneth Arnold, a private pilot, sees disc-shaped objects over Mt. Ranier, Washington. Arnold will coin the word "flying saucers" and the modern age of UFO mania will be born. But on June 21, 1947, no one thought in terms of UFOs or flying saucers. On that day, near Maury Island, Washington, Fred Lee Crisman and Harold A. Dahl, harbor patrolman, separately saw six donut-shaped metallic objects over Puget Sound. One of these unidentified flying objects exploded and showered a metal slag onto a boat owned by Crisman near Maury Island. The slag killed a dog (the first modern animal mutilation case?) and injured Harold Dahl's son, who was the boat's pilot. Both Crisman and Dahl collected samples of the slag.

The next day, Harold Dahl was visited by a medium-height man dressed in black, driving a new 1947 Buick (This is the first modern case of a MIB). This man sat down with Dahl and over breakfast told him detail for detail everything Dahl had seen and done the day before, as if the stranger had been there. When Dahl related this to Kenneth Arnold who had been sent by editor Ray Palmer to investigate, Harold Dahl was still visibly upset by the accuracy of the MIB's account. The stranger then warned Dahl in no uncertain terms, that if he valued the safety and health of his family, Dahl would tell no one about the sighting.

The events that followed the Maury Island sighting are so bizarre that their only parallel has been the strange events leading from Dallas to Watergate, from the silencing of assassination witnesses to the break-ins of "The Plumbers".

After Harold Dahl was interviewed by Kenneth Arnold, Dahl vanished. Fred Lee Crisman, who had flown during World War II, was suddenly recalled into

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the service in 1947. Crisman was shipped to Alaska and then to Greenland. Two Air Force officers, Davidson and Brown, were killed after they finished their Maury Island investigation, when the plane taking them from Tacoma crashed. Slag samples collected by Crisman and Dahl were switched. Additional samples contained in a cigar box in Ray Palmer's Chicago office were stolen.

Kenneth Arnold and airline pilot E. J. Smith had many strange experiences as they investigated the Maury Island Incident, as it has come to be known. Arnold found hotel reservations were made for him in Tacoma although he thought no one knew he was coming. Mysterious callers informed the local newspapers of the details of the Arnold-Smith conversations. The two men checked for bugging devices but could find none. Paul Lance, a Tacoma newsman who had assisted Arnold during his inquiry, died shortly after Arnold left town. When Kenneth Arnold did leave Tacoma, he was almost killed. Arnold got into his plane and was heading home when his engine shut down. Arnold only escaped a crash by some fast and expert maneuvering on his part.

The central mystery figure in the Maury Island Incident, Fred Lee Crisman, was to have many missions after his two years of exile in Greenland.

On the 22nd of November, 1963, three "tramps" were arrested but not booked by the Dallas Police and Sheriff's Office. Thanks to William Allen, George Smith and Jack Beers of the Dallas Times Herald, the Fort Worth Star-Telegram and the Dallas Morning News, several photographs were taken of these "mystery tramps" as they were led across Dealey Plaza. Richard Sprague, computer specialist and a conscientious assassination investigator, maintains one of the "tramps" is Fred Lee Crisman. During Jim Garrison's Grand Jury hearings in New Orleans which looked into the conspiracy surrounding the JFK murder, Crisman was called as a witness and gave testimony. The exact nature of what Crisman said has never been released. And then, Fred Lee Crisman's name came up again as the subject of a possible investigation by the late Senator Frank Church's Senate Intelligence Committee.

What is the strange thread that comes down through the years from Maury Island to Dallas and beyond? What is the purpose of the men-in-black and their fellow silencers? What is Fred Lee Crisman's role in a flying saucer sighting and an assassination?

Whatever the logic may be, the fields of the researchers of the occult, the UFO mystery, and the assassinations seem to be more interrelated than one could ever have guessed only a few years ago.

SOME NOTES ON THE COLEMAN ARTICLE:

We know "Samuel", Coleman's source for the New Orleans "coven" story. We, in fact, were Coleman's immediate source for the tale. Unfortunately, nothing more is known, as we lost track of "Samuel" many years ago.

We are very interested in the intriguing life story of Fred Lee Crisman. We have delved into aspects of his existence for many years, with help from researchers such as Brent Raynes, Floyd Murray and Kalani Hanohano. Hope-

fully, an extensive examination of the enigmatic life of "Mr.C." will be published within the reasonable future. We solicit comments from our readers regarding the Crisman story. No one seems to have the whole story, but there are lots of pieces floating about. Also of interest is an individual named Thomas Edward Beckham, briefly mentioned by Coleman. Unlike Crisman, Beckham is still alive (as far as we know) and his shadowy likeness turns up now and then. We'd like to know more about him, if any readers possess such knowledge. The pages of CRUX are open to commentary regarding the political assassinations, particularly that of JFK. We do not find the "official" line satisfactory. Some may have been under the impression that CRUX is intended to be a "Fortean" publication - and, if so, what's with the assassinations? "Fortean", to us, is an outlook, a perspective, an attitude - not merely a term for a body of data. And if assassination conspiracy speculation and evidence which does not support the official positions isn't "data of the damned", we don't know what is.

Kenneth Arnold's own story of his Maury Island investigation is interesting reading. If you can still find the book anywhere, it's THE COMING OF THE SAUCERS by Arnold and Ray Palmer, published by the late Ray Palmer's Amherst (Wisconsin) Press (1952).

Loren Coleman's article, above, also appears in the Dec. 1985 issue of THE CONSPIRACY TRACKER; P.O. Box 596; Paterson, NJ 07524; \$2.25 per copy.

Loren Coleman's two latest books are highly recommended and are, in fact, essential reading for serious Fortean: MYSTERIOUS AMERICA (1983) and CURIOUS ENCOUNTERS (1985), both published by Faber & Faber, Inc.; 39 Thompson Street; Winchester, MA 01890.

"Coincidence, if traced far enough back, becomes inevitable."

Inscription on a Hindu temple,
quoted by Thomas Thompson

SOME WIDE-AWAKE THOUGHTS ON HYPNOSIS

The Amazing Kreskin has a standing offer of \$100,000 to anyone who can prove the existence of a hypnotic state. In 1985 (United Press International; 3-6-85) he spoke out against a bill that would license hypnotech-nicians in New Jersey. He asked: "How can they license somebody to do something that has never been proven to exist?" The bill would allow the admission of testimony from hypnotized witnesses in court. Kreskin commented: "Psychiatrists have bulldozed us into believing that we can use hypnosis to alter behavior, to help us remember things. It's not hypnosis. It's motivation, it's imagination, it's role-playing".

Benjamin Altman and Gordon MacLeod write in the NEW YORK STATE BAR JOURNAL of October 1982 ("Hypnotism: Its Utilization in Criminal Law"):

The future of hypnosis would not appear to be that bright as far as the judiciary is concerned. The court system is not the most progressive arena to present new concepts or new breakthroughs; it deals with extensive punishment and the rights of individuals and great weight cannot be given to unknown or untrusted concepts. The court system is not to be reprimanded for this approach. The concept of hypnosis is likened to lighting a match. The act has some dangers (burnt fingers; setting the entire box on fire; dangerous in children's hands), yet it sets off an illuminating glow which in turn can be beneficial in the potential the momentary glow has (emergency lighting; warmth; energy). Hypnosis at the present stage represents concern and emits a small amount of light. While it is slightly helpful, there appears to be no collective progress of the technique in general. It is equivalent to sporadically lighting matches and letting them flicker out. (credit: Peter Gersten)

One final comment on hypnosis comes from Paramhansa Yogananda. In AUTOBIOGRAPHY OF A YOGI, he writes that "...a hypnotic state is harmful to those often subjected to it; a negative psychological effect ensues that in time deranges the brain cells. Hypnotism is trespass into the territory of another's consciousness". (credit: Ruth Borne)

Zoodities

Winged Creatures Over Illinois

by GRANT CALLISON

Galesburg, Illinois

The descriptions below were from our log of UFO sightings that my wife and I started on May 3, 1967. The following is an account of how we happened to see these giant "bird-like" creatures and the events that followed.

On 5/10/68, 10:05 P.M., with a thin cloud cover, the ceiling was approximately 10,000 feet and the moon was partly visible, more than half but not full. The wind was calm. I had gone to the kitchen to get a drink of water. There is a window which faces east toward a shopping center two blocks away. I saw something bright out of the corner of my eye that caught my attention outside and at the top of the window. I looked out the window and saw a giant "bird-like" creature that glowed fluorescent from the street lights' reflection on it. I called my wife, Wilma, and we both ran out the back door to get a better look. To our amazement there were three of them, in a "V" formation, moving away from us. They were clearly visible flying at an approximate height of 500 feet. They were moving from 25 to 35 mph. They had gone over our house moving in a southeasterly direction. They would have had to approach from the northwest.

They looked like they had either feathers or scales with a metallic appearance that glowed fluorescent with the light reflected on them. They didn't seem to have a neck, just a head. Their tail was short and seemed to be cone-shaped. The wing spread was approximately 15 to 20 feet. It was really an unbelievable sight, and frightening. As they moved away we stood and watched them. Their flight was not that of an ordinary bird - but instead a graceful, fluttering motion that was breathtaking because of their size.

We then saw two objects to the south with pulsating red lights moving in the same direction at the same speed. The objects appeared to be at about the same height as the "birds". They were moving west, on a course to intercept the "birds". One of the objects turned out its lights and the other either circled or reversed itself to a point where they could meet. My wife said that we must never mention this to anyone as no one would believe us.

A few days later we were visiting with my brother, Ward, and his wife, Louise, but obviously did not mention what we had seen. After we had visited awhile, my brother casually asked if we had seen anything unusual a few nights ago around 10:00 PM. We, of course, knew what he was referring to, so we told him what we had seen. My brother lives one block east of the shopping center, while we live two blocks west - three blocks from each other.

He noticed the "birds" or "creatures" from the west window in his house. He ran out the back door to get a better look. When he first saw them out the window, they were approximately 7 or 8 blocks away, which would be on the edge of the city limits. They were coming from the northwest and toward his home. When he got outside they were closer and were a frightening sight. He could hardly believe what he was seeing. Since they were coming toward him, he ran back into the house and called to his wife, Louise. They both watched from the west window as they changed course to the south and disappeared. Their description matched ours in every detail.

On 10/20/68, 9:00 PM, is another entry in the "log" concerning a giant "bird" or "winged creature". This bird-like creature was moving east to west. When my wife and I first saw the "thing" it was approaching us at approximately 60 degrees, and it flew directly over us. Since it was higher (500 to 1000 feet) the reflection of the street lights did not make it appear quite as luminous. This one was by itself but the description was the same as the others. However, it seemed to be having trouble as the right wing was slightly lower than the left wing. Both wings were barely moving, and in an erratic manner. Its head (again, no neck) turned as if it had spotted us looking at it. The head continued to look toward us as it went over. We sighted no UFOs that night, but there had been other reports in the area on previous nights. This really scared us and we went inside for the rest of the night. These giant "birds or creatures" obviously do not naturally inhabit this planet, so in my opinion they would have to be extraterrestrial. I had never heard of reports of such "birds" or "creatures". We cannot deny what we saw. The accounts are accurate and true to the best of our ability.

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BHM (Big Hairy Monster) NOTES:

A week before Halloween, 1985, a porch-chewing creature was reported by the residents of Hearne, Robertson County, in Central Texas. One man heard a noise and opened his front door to see a tall, man-like figure which slapped at the door and began to chew on it. The witness slammed the door and looked out the window to see his dog running off down the street. A week later, the dog still had not returned. Other observers reported that such a creature tore window screens and jumped around on rooftops (DALLAS MORNING NEWS, 10-24-85).

In late September of 1985, something may have paid a call to East Pennsboro Township, near Harrisburg, Pennsylvania. Two residents saw it on the night of September 29. One man was watching television with his family when they began to gag on a noxious odor that was apparently coming through an open window. The householder stepped outside and, under the light of a full moon, saw a 6-or-7-foot-tall creature standing 40 or 50 feet away. The head was sitting on the creature's shoulders - no neck - and the shoulders appeared about a yard wide. It was as wide at the hips as at the shoulders, and the legs were long. It was covered with shaggy brown hair. The creature was not a bear as, in profile, it had no snout. The witness screamed and the being loped off with its arms swinging at full length. Another area resident reported to police that, for the second time in a month, a cat had disappeared from a pen that had been secured with a hasp and pin. Someone else had heard "strange noises" on the 29th, and something scared her horse, causing it to bolt into the barn. A motorist named Tom Leach saw a creature behind a guardrail as he drove by on a road in East Pennsboro Township. Leach slowed down as he passed with eight feet of the figure. He, also, reported it as lacking a neck, standing about 6½ feet tall and covered with hair. As Leach passed, the creature barred its teeth, revealing long fangs. When Leach reported the sighting to police, they made him repeat his account on several occasions, and the details were always the same. An officer Karns accompanied Leach back to the site, and they both heard strange noises through the remainder of the night (THE PATRIOT; Harrisburg, PA 10-9-85 and 10-10-85. Credit: Larry Arnold, Parascience International, Harrisburg).

There have been very occasional hairy creature reports over northern New Mexico over at least the past couple of decades. Nothing had been reported for several years until early 1986. A "huge, hairy creature with red eyes" was reported by a number of truck drivers along a lonely stretch of US Highway 285, north of Tres Piedras, New Mexico and south of the prominent landmark, San Antonio Mountain, on the Colorado border. Tres Piedras resident Duke Cozart talked to several drivers who had seen the watzit. In mid-January, one trucker saw what he said was definitely a bear along the highway, leading to speculation that bears could explain all the sightings, with unseasonably warm weather having brought them out of hibernation. Some of the reports, though, described the creature as more monkey-like. Some residents of the Tres Piedras area later said that a "strange creature" had been reported for years. Not "officially" reported, though, as people in this remote region do not tend to be blabbermouths about such matters (TAOS (NM) NEWS, Jan.16, 1986; VALLEY COURIER; Alamosa, CO; Feb. 11, 1986).

Plug a bigfoot for science. Grover Krantz and John Lowenstein would seem to agree on that aim. Krantz is the Washington State University anthropology professor who has been dogging the bigfoot trail for years, and who suspects the creatures may be a sort of latter-day Gigantopithecus. The Sasquatch is an endangered species, he says, therefore it's important that one be shot as soon as possible. This must be done, Krantz says, to establish the credibility necessary to ensure an aggressive preservation effort. Peopke at the Smithsonian tell Krantz to "put a skull on my table and I'll believe you". So a carcass, preferably fresh, is to only way to prove Sasquatch reality. And John Lowenstein? He's been accused of being out in left field, That's among the several positions he played for a number of American League baseball teams. He finished his career with Baltimore. He majored in anthropology at Cal-Riverside and believes in Bigfoot. He announced in 1984 that he was planning to pursue the creature in the field (no, not that field - in Oregon somewhere). He said his plan was to shoot it. "Obviously", he said, it's not something you'd bring back on a leash". (DALLAS TIMES HERALD, Mar. 25, 1984; DELAWARE COUNTY DAILY TIMES (PA); Apr.27, 1986, credit:Floyd Murray)

THE CAPROCK WOLFPACK

The "Caprock" is an escarpment that runs roughly north-south through a sizeable portion of West Texas, separating the High Plains of Lubbock and Seminole to the west from the lower plains to the east. In February of 1877, an unusual occurrence - for Texas anyway - occurred in Yellow House Canyon, about 50 miles southeast of present-day Lubbock. After the army campaigns of Col. Ranald Mackenzie pushed the Indians out of the region in the early-to-mid 1870's, frontiersmen moved in to quickly wipe out the area's bison herds. By 1876-77, cattlemen had settled the Caprock region. John Lovelady was scouting his new ranch that February morning when he noticed a gray wave emerging from one of the canyons in the distance. According to Lovelady's account, which was published in 1901 by Lubbock newspaper editor Don Biggers, he found as he drew closer on horseback that the "wave" was an immense pack of wolves, about 20 wolves abreast and somewhere between 2 and 3 miles in length. Wolves had been the bane (dare we say the wolfsbane?) of those early cattlemen. With the eradication of the buffalo, their primary food source, the wolves turned to the ranchers' cattle. Wolves remained numerous in West Texas into the 1890's, but were almost non-existent by 1900. In the 1877 story, Lovelady fired into the wolf-wave but the pack itself barely wavered from it's course. Some historians have greeted the Lovelady tale with skepticism; but at least two Texas historians, David Murrah and William C. Griggs, say they have no reason to doubt the story. The "1877 Migration of Wolves" is cited on a historical marker in Yellow House Canyon. (DALLAS MORNING NEWS, March 30, 1986)

REPTILES OF A FEATHER

Back in 1972, Dr. James A. Jensen of Brigham Young University announced that the ostrich (and its relatives, the rhea, cassowary and emu) is really not a bird at all, but rather a feathered reptile more closely related to dino-

saur than to today's flying birds. Jensen drew his conclusion following his study of both modern "flightless birds" and fossil eggs of prehistoric feathered-but-flightless reptiles. Commonly, the ostrich, emu, etc., were thought to have developed from flying birds which eventually lost the ability to fly and degenerated into surface-dwellers. The fossil evidence, according to Jensen, indicates continuous existence of larger feathered, flightless ground dwellers from the disappearance of the dinosaurs up to the present. Flying birds and today's "flightless birds", he says, are descended from different forebears. (DALLAS MORNING NEWS, Feb. 17, 1972).

Anthropologist Melvin Conner interviewed an unnamed paleontologist who specializes in the study of the archaeopteryx, a primitive bird with reptilian characteristics - some have even called it "the first true bird". The paleontologist told Conner that the archaeopteryx reminded him of the human race, in that it was such a transitional creature. His comment about the archaeopteryx was: "It's a piss-poor reptile, and it's not very much of a bird". (PSYCHOLOGY TODAY, March 1982)

JIMMIE DODD WOULD BE PROUD

The following letter to the editor appeared in the WALL STREET JOURNAL of April 3, 1986:

As America's largest organization of rat and mouse fanciers, we at the American Fancy Rat and Mouse Association (AFRMA) have long enjoyed your excellent, fair-minded coverage of rats.

We also enjoyed your delightful March 12 page-one story about our British cage-mates, the National Mouse Club - until we came to the patronizing and unsportsmanlike comments on the American mouse movement in general, on our organization in particular, and on rats. British mouse fancier Frank Hawley's remarks to the contrary, we are not namby-pamby and we do take mice seriously. We do agree that mouse fanciers are warm, cheerful people (although Mr. Hawley must have been having an off day when your reporter talked to him).

The AFRMA, 9230 64th St., Riverside, Calif. 92509 (not Fontana, Calif., as Mr. Hawley suggested) holds regular competitions in the California area for mice and rats. Everyone who read your article and wished that he or she could travel to England to see a real mouse show is welcome to visit our shows right at home.

Karen Houser, President, AFRMA

In September 1985, residents of northern Hungary reported seeing a great beast with big eyes and ears "jumping in a peculiar way in the forest". Turns out some kangaroos fled a circus. (DALLAS TIMES HERALD, 9-23-85)

A rare man-eating elephant was reported in the remote state of Meghalaya, in northeastern India. It had killed and feasted upon at least five people in 1985. (DALLAS TIMES HERALD, January 10, 1986)

STIGMATA

NO.
23

THE PROJECT STIGMA REPORT ON THE CONTINUING INVESTIGATION INTO THE OCCURRENCE OF ANIMAL MUTILATIONS

Mutilation Reports In 1985

ALABAMA

Activity was centered in (and, as far as we know, confined to) Marshall County, in northeastern Alabama, less than 50 miles south-southeast of Huntsville. On a unspecified date, a mare was killed near Arab, Alabama, and its genitals were removed. Around the 21st of April, 1985, a cow was found dead and with its genitals missing on the farm of Guntersville High School Principal Les Click. Another incident - again on a unspecified date, occurred on the farm of Welton Tidmore, whose property adjoins the Les Click farm. Tidmore lost a cow in a manner similar to Click's. The tongue and ears were also missing from Tidmore's cow.

Then, on the weekend of November 15-16-17, 1985, three goats were killed on two consecutive nights. The animals belonged to Guntersville businessman Ty Dorman. According to the Guntersville newspaper, the Advertiser-Glean (November 23, 1985):

All 3 of their throats were cut, but there was no sign of the blood that must have been spilled when that happened. The sexual parts of one goat had been cut out. A hole had been cut in the side of another goat, and parts of three ribs removed.

The carcasses were found in the old county school bus shop on Ligon Street, behind Finis St. John's plumbing and boiler shop. Mr. Dorman has been renting the property from the Hospital Board, which now owns it. He buys and sells scrap materials and has been using the property as a storage place. "I had the goats there to keep the grass down", Mr. Dorman said. He found the largest of the three when he went there Saturday morning. She was about 7 years old and weighed about 150 pounds. She was on the verge of giving birth. She had been killed in the night. She was lying on the floor of the old shop, as if she had been run inside and cornered. Two smaller goats, each pregnant for the first time, were fine. "I thought at first some dogs had probably killed her", Mr. Dorman said. He hauled her body to the woods to dispose of it and noticed that her sexual organs had been cut out.

Sunday afternoon Mr. Dorman and his wife Betty went to the shop and found both of the younger goats dead. A hole had been cut in the side of one of them, and some of the fat under the skin had been pulled out. It didn't appear that any interior organs had been removed but Mr. Dorman couldn't tell for sure. Their

sexual parts hadn't been cut out. There was some blood over near one side of the shed, possibly where one of the goats had been stabbed or slashed while it ran, but no sign of a large volume of blood from cutting the throats.

In April of 1986, almost a year to the day after the discovery of Les Click's cow, another cow was found dead and mutilated on the Vandervoort farm which, like the Tidmore farm, adjoins Les Click's property. The night after the Vandervoort mutilation, school principal Click heard a helicopter flying low over his farm. More on the 1986 activity in STIGMATA #24. (Sources: ADVERTISER-GLEAM; Guntersville, AL (11-23-85, 4-23-86); THE HUNTSVILLE TIMES (4-22-86, 4-30-86); THE BIRMINGHAM POST-HERALD (4-23-86, 4-30-86); Credit: Lynn Phillips via Lucius Farish; Mark A. Hall).

COLORADO

Elbert County - El Paso County

Over the past dozen or so years, this has been one of the most consistently mutilation-prone areas in the country. Some claim that might be no accident, citing some connection to the heavy concentration of military installations in the Colorado Springs-El Paso County area. Many readers are familiar with the exploits, investigations and comments of Elbert County Sheriff George Yarnell. He was sheriff during the mutilation-madness of 1975 - and he's still The Law in Elbert County, USA. Sheriff Yarnell recently reminisced for Monty Gaddy in the RANGLAND NEWS (Simla, Colorado). He recalled that, in the mid-70's, when the mutilation reports were so numerous, reports of low-flying aircraft (some obviously helicopters) were equally numerous. Yarnell had seen some the aircraft and the bright searchlight-type lights they so often emitted. And, he said, when the big mutilation wave finally stopped (though there have been sporadic reports since) the aircraft reports ceased as well. In the exclusive interview with Gaddy, Yarnell also recounted a run-in with the Colorado Bureau of Investigation (CBI) in Denver, who conducted their own much-ballyhooed mutilation investigation in 1975. Yarnell had submitted hide samples from mutilated livestock to CBI for analysis by their lab. The mutilations were then persistently reported by the CBI to be predator-caused, much to Yarnell's frustration. Yarnell sent CBI a sample of hide he had cut with his own knife. The verdict: what else? Predators. Yarnell was "infuriated", "disgusted", and he "didn't waste much time" with the CBI beyond that. In 1985, Monty Gaddy asked Carl Whiteside for his comment on Yarnell's story. Whiteside headed the 1975 investigation and is now CBI director. Concerning Yarnell's account, Whiteside said: "I have no way to refute that. It was obviously an oversight in our lab".

Elbert and adjoining El Paso Counties were not safe in 1985 - at least not the livestock residing in that domain. A possible mutilation was investigated by Yarnell in July, on the Max Kelly ranch, three miles south of state highway 86. Kelly found a heifer down in his pasture on July 18. It appeared a large circular area had been cut out around the rectum. The

weather was extremely hot, though; the carcass had bloated and dried out considerably. Then, four mutilations were reported in the area in a two-week period in early-to-mid September 1985. On September 2, George Cvaniga found the carcass of a 9-month-old steer on land he leases near Ramah. The rectum, genitals and "half the face" were reportedly removed from the animal. About a week later, Art Rasner found a 7-month-old calf about three miles west of his house, in extreme southeastern El Paso County. The calf had been healthy the day before. When found, there appeared to be "smooth circular cut around the rectum".

On September 6, rancher Ralph Rickey was driving around checking cattle with his foreman, Ray Green, on the Rickey Ranch, about 32 miles southeast of Simla. They noticed a leg sticking up out of tall grass. It belonged to the carcass of a 5-month-old heifer calf. Green said that: "Right behind the front leg was a perfect circle about 12" in diameter, just like somebody used a real sharp object to cut it". Some kind of incision had also been made around the mouth area. Another of Rickey's calves was found mutilated in the same general area in the mid-70's.

On Saturday, September 14, an apparently-mutilated 5-year-old cow was discovered on the Clifford Gertsch ranch in southeastern Elbert County, about 19 miles south of Matheson. Jim and Billie Trembly are caretakers of the ranch, where Gertsch grazes about 75 head of cattle. Trembly thought the cow had been dead about two days. According to Monty Gaddy in the RANCHLAND NEWS (9-19-85)...

A circular cut about eight inches in diameter had been made around the animal's rectum, and another oblong piece of hide about six inches in length was removed from the udder area. The areas appeared to have been cut away with surgical expertise. No blood had dripped from the animal onto the sandy soil, and no footprints or unusual markings were found in the area. The meat appeared to be untouched.

Besides the classic clues pointing to a mutilation, the animal had several other unusual features. There was a substance slowly oozing from the animal's nose. "I've never heard anyone say anything about oozing from the nose in any of the mutilations I've read about", Mrs. Trembly said. Even more peculiar was an unexplainable spot on the cow's belly where the hair had been rubbed off. Additionally, there were marks directly in front of both the left and right rear legs. Judging from the marks, it appears some sort of claw device must have pinched the hide with such intensity as to break the skin and cause bruises. (The) Tremblays said they suspect the animal was airlifted and dropped at the point where they made the discovery.

Mrs. Trembly told the ROCKY MOUNTAIN NEWS (4-21-86) that:

She's convinced the government is doing something "sleazy". The cuts are so precise she believes they could have been made with a laser. "It's frightening", she said. "Our dog wouldn't go near the dead cow. The birds left the area for a long time".

In late November or Early December, the El Paso County Sheriff's Department

investigated the mutilation of a Hereford cow on the Eldon Butler ranch on Murphy Road in El Paso County. According to the investigative report, the cow's belly had a 14-inch hole cut by "some type of sharp cutting instrument". The animal's genitals were missing. Incredibly, the same report declared that "it's the work of predators". Rancher Butler said "That makes you kind of sore when you can see with your own plain eyes a butcher couldn't leave such a clean hole". The night before he found the cow's carcass, Butler heard a helicopter hovering about 300 yards from his house. Though it was hovering and was "real loud", he thought little of it, as military aircraft often fly over his ranch

WELD COUNTY

Another area traditionally hard-hit by mutilators. A single case was reported in October 1985. It has been suggested that this was the first Weld County mutilation since the famous/infamous Briggsdale, Colorado cases of 1980 (see "Covert Capers Crown Colorado Cow Case" in STIGMATA #13). Actually, another case occurred in extreme northern Weld County in November of 1982, almost on the Wyoming border. It was investigated by a Weld County deputy and a Wyoming veterinarian (whose most intriguing findings we featured in STIGMATA #20, p. 13). The carcass of a young crossbred bull was found in a field 2 miles SE of Roggen, Colorado, on or about Oct. 7, 1985, by rancher Robert Holsten. A week before, a two-year-old Hereford heifer had been found dead on the same property, but the carcass was unmarked. On Oct. 7, a passerby informed Holsten that two animals were down in his field. Holsten, of course, knew of one, and the other, the bull, was found about 50 yards from the heifer. Holsten suspected the bull had been dead for up to two days. Holsten said: "It was pretty obvious it had been mutilated. Its penis was removed, the scrotum had been cut away and the anus area had been cut. There was no obvious cause of death that we (Holsten and a sheriff's deputy) could find". The "word" among ranchers was that another mutilated carcass had been found, but not reported, in the same general area.

LOGAN COUNTY

Perhaps the hardest-hit county of all. We know of no specifics on reports from Logan County in 1985. Tex Graves, the sheriff at the height of the mutilation furor there, told the COLORADO SPRINGS GAZETTE TELEGRAPH (2-2-86) that he "knows who or what is responsible for the mutilations, 'but I won't repeat it'". In November 1985, Project Stigma received a letter from a Logan County law officer, from which the following is excerpted:

As a law enforcement officer in Logan County I have had the privilege to discuss the phenomena with numerous individuals who were involved with the mutilations in varying aspects. Some of these individuals held, and still hold, high and respectable positions within their communities. When discussing the issues, I couldn't help but feel a strong paranoia pervading from these people, especially the ones who were active in the investigation of the mutilations. Some were evasive, angry and even hostile! This is very peculiar, con-

sidering the mutilations supposedly ceased in the late 70's! I have even been warned to proceed with caution upon examining the matter! Unusual!. I am not implying that the mutilations are still occurring as frequently and that a fantastic "cover-up" has been implemented, but I do believe that they (mutilations) are still happening on a limited basis (in Logan County, anyway) and that the ranchers and other involved citizens are no longer reporting the strange deaths to the proper authorities because doing so, of course, would be in vain.

(Colorado sources: RANGLAND NEWS, 9-5-85, 9-12-85, 9-19-85); COLORADO SPRINGS GAZETTE TELEGRAPH, 2-2-86; ROCKY MOUNTAIN NEWS (Denver), 4-21-86; GREELEY (Colo.) TRIBUNE, 10-12-85. Credit: Monty Gaddy, Linda M. Howe, Bill Jackson, David Perkins, Shirley Rickard)

KANSAS

The carcass of an 11-year-old cow was discovered near Sawyer, in Pratt co., Kansas, on February 10, 1985. An approx. 14-inch-diameter circle was cut away from the rear of the cow, removing the anus and vagina. There was no sign of bleeding, no tracks of coyotes or other predators - only the tracks of the cow's 2½-month-old calf. The cow was pregnant again. A veterinarian who lived nearby came to look, said he couldn't figure out how the animal died.

MONTANA

Cascade County (another area reeking with mutilation-related lore). In late October, a horse was found dead between Vaughn and Fairfield in NW Cascade County. The horse could be seen lying in a strange position on top of a hill. On Halloween night, owner Tom Denning went to investigate. Denning told the GREAT FALLS TRIBUNE:

"We noticed the face was stripped back on one side, completely cut back right down to the bone", Denning said. "All you could see was the jaw and the skull. On the back end, the sexual organs were cut out in (a) circular pattern and removed, and the mammaries were also removed". He said an ear and an eyeball also were missing, and neck muscles were removed to expose the windpipe. "It's really strange", Denning said. "The cuts are so precise. Where it's skinned off her face, it's an absolutely straight cut with nothing left at all except the bone structure".

Denning was mystified by the lack of any evidence of bleeding. Capt. Keith Wolverton of the Cascade County Sheriff's Office investigated. The GREAT FALLS TRIBUNE asked Sheriff Glenn Osborne about the results of Wolverton's investigation, Osborne stated that Wolverton "said it was nothing but predators". When contacted by the newspaper, Wolverton refused to comment. Tom Denning, the owner of the horse and an eighth-grade schoolteacher, disagreed with Wolverton's conclusion:

"He tried to tell me it was predators on the back end", Denning said. "There's

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no way I'd agree with that because it was too precise a cut - it wasn't something that was chewed out. It was a perfectly circular pattern. If it was a predator, it would have had jagged edges". While Wolverton said predators might have caused the cuts on the back of the animal, Denning said Wolverton could not explain the cuts to the horse's face. "He said it was unusual and he had no answers", Denning said. There have been reports of cattle mutilations in the Sun River Valley over the past nine years. (GREAT FALLS TRIBUNE, Nov. 8, 1985; Credit: James R. Leming)

NEW JERSEY

In Atlantic City, in July 1985, police arrested 19 people of Cuban descent in an apartment strewn with the remains of chickens, ducks and lambs, buckets of blood, and ritualistic altars. Hundreds of chicken, duck and lamb parts were discovered, along with three lamb carcasses minus legs and a number of live fowl. The practitioners were in various stages of butchering and blood-smeared reverie. A similar scene had been discovered in a house in Pleasantville, near Atlantic City, a week earlier. We mention all this for contrast with our other data. This would not be considered "classic" animal mutilation evidence. (WISCONSIN STATE JOURNAL; Madison, Wisconsin; July 23, 1985; Credit: Richard W. Heiden).

NEW MEXICO

There were no known livestock mutilations reported in New Mexico in 1984, not even in Rio Arriba County - like Elbert, El Paso and Logan Counties in Colorado - a perennial mutilation "hot spot". That was almost the case in 1985 - for only one case was reported, in - where else? - Rio Arriba County.

It had been a year and a half since the last mutilation in the county, until Friday, March 29, 1985. When rancher Tony Martinez went out to feed his cattle that morning, he discovered the carcass of a 5-year-old registered Hereford cow. The udder, anus and genitals appeared to have been removed with "the clean slice of a knife". The animal had been alive and well at around 2:00 PM the previous day. Although the cow was found within a couple of hundred yards of the ranch house, family members heard nothing during that night. Martinez told reporter Thom Barnes of the RIO GRANDE SUN (Española, NM):

"It seemed like (the cattle) were scared or something", he said, adding the cattle were acting unnaturally. No sign of a struggle was apparent near the cow, but Martinez said ground around the area was stirred up slightly, probably by movement of the other cattle. The dead cow had no visible wounds other than the mutilated areas, and Martinez said he has no idea what caused her death. "You can usually tell if a cow is sick and she looked fine yesterday", he said. Martinez checks his 65 head of Herefords daily. Martinez left the cow as he found her after covering her with a blanket, and called N.M. State Police.

Officer Keith Elder arrived about 8 a.m. to examine the cow and found the carcass intact, but stiff and bloated. Elder observed there was no blood on the ground and speculated the cuts could have been made with a hunting knife. Elder found no apparent cause of death, but noted no signs of an animal attack.

In a bit of a twist (as far as most potentially-genuine mutilation cases are concerned, anyway), predators did address themselves to the carcass that Friday night. Dogs were apparently the culprits. Cattle inspector arrived to view the carcass after the dogs had been at work. Based on what he learned from Officer Elder, inspector Ray Gallegos considered that the case might be "authentic". He remarked that mutilation reports were rare in the southern part of vast Rio Arriba County; that most of the reports over the previous decade emanated from the northern fringe of the county, around Dulce, Chama and Cuba. (RIO GRANDE SUN; Espanola, NM; April 4, 1985)

OHIO

In April 1985, there was a flurry of media coverage focused on Union County, Ohio, just northwest of Columbus. The sheriff, John Overly, had appointed a deputy, John Lala, to work full-time investigating an outbreak of "animal mutilations" and ritual slaughters believed associated with at least five groups of "satanic worshipers" thought to frequent the area. Lala's investigation began in December of 1984. He said there had been at least 200 animal mutilations in Union County, involving the torturing of lambs, dogs and other animals, the eating of the animals' flesh and the drinking of their blood. Union County, just 20-or-so miles from Columbus, was said to offer cultists remote areas where they could do their thing without detection. Overly & Lala were worried that the crimes could escalate from animal mutilations to something even more serious. But the most gruesome findings (this gets grim; younger readers should stop here): Lala was able to enter certain Union County homes and photograph bookshelves! These shelves contained such titles as "THE ENCYCLOPEDIA OF ANCIENT AND FORBIDDEN KNOWLEDGE, THE ANATOMY OF WITCHCRAFT and MAGICKS AND CEREMONIES (Wo-o-o-e, baby! A dead give-away if we ever heard of one!). Further north in Ohio, in Toledo and Lucas County, authorities were looking into reports that cultists had ritually slaughtered up to 75 people, most of them children and newborn babies. Unidentified informants were making such claims, anyway. (Sources: DAILY OKLAHOMAN, 4-16-85; THE MONTANA STANDARD (Butte, MT), 4-16-85; THE PLAIN DEALER (Cleveland, OH), 4-15-85; NATIONAL EXAMINER, 4-9-85; NEW YORK POST, 6-21-85. Credit: Jack Gilluly, R.W. Andersen)

SOUTH CAROLINA

Spartanburg County: Two dogs were found decapitated in December, one near Campobello, one near Inman. More such incidents would be reported in the county in 1986. (CHARLOTTE (NC) OBSERVER, Feb. 15, 1986; Credit: George Fawcett)

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SOUTH DAKOTA

In May (5-22-85), a possible cattle mutilation was reported near Porcupine, on the Pine Ridge Indian Reservation, the site of several mutilations in recent years. The cow was found around sundown about 2-3 miles from both the owner's house and the nearest road. Normally, anyone going to the site would have to pass right by the owner's house. The cow, laying on its left side, suffered mutilation of the rectal area, the tongue, the jaw ("skinned") and the udder (cut off deep into the peritoneum, the membrane lining the abdominal cavity and covering the viscera). The jaw-skinning extended partially around from one side of the snout to the other. Some white material was found on the carcass - white flecks like paint flipped off a paintbrush. No known analysis was performed. Some sort of "skid mark" was said to be on the ground nearby. Nine or ten paces to the northeast of the carcass were pieces of flesh, apparently from the victim cow. As investigators left the scene, other cows came up to stand over and sniff at the carcass. (Sources: David Brewer, Linda M. Howe)

TEXAS

In early January, 1985, a rancher in Duval County in South Texas found a cow missing. The carcass of the animal was discovered the next day in a field 11 miles south of San Diego, Texas. The cow was 12 years old, leading Deputy Adolio Briones to suggest the animal probably died of old age and certain body parts were eaten away by buzzards. He suggested the animal had probably died two weeks before it was found, directly contradicting the rancher, Tomas Hinojosa, and his brothers. Briones felt that recent cold spells in the area had preserved the carcass longer than normal. The CORPUS CHRISTI CALLER reported that:

Hinojosa disagreed.

The cow had not been dead for two weeks, Hinojosa said. One of his brothers saw the animal the day before it was discovered missing, he said, and the animal was found dead the following night.

The animal's tongue, tail and genitals had been removed, with "clean incisions". There was no blood or evidence of bleeding. Both Hinojosa and the deputy, Briones, agreed that there was no blood in the carcass.

There was not enough time for the animal's carcass to decay to a great extent nor for the blood to dry up, according to Hinojosa. "We cut into it and the meat was still fresh", he said. Hinojosa, who was born and raised on the ranch he owns, said that he has seen many dead cows and animals through the course of his life. "But not with these characteristics", he said. "I have seen a lot of dead animals eaten by buzzards and coyotes", he said, adding that the carcass.....does not have the signs of having been preyed upon by buzzards.....Another strange twist in the incident was that no drops of blood or tracks of any kind were found at the scene.....Hinojosa was missing two other animals as of last week. The animals were discovered missing the day

that the carcass was found, said Hinojosa.

(Source: CORPUS CHRISTI (TX) CALLER; Jan.31,1985;Credit: Walter H.Andrus,Jr.)

In mid-March of 1985, the remains of two horses were found near Leander in Central Texas, along the Williamson/Travis County line. The animals were evidently found just across the line in Travis County, as that county's sheriff's office investigated. The owner of the horses was Mrs. Connie Grady, who was alerted by a neighbor that two horses were down. The 7-year-old gelding and the 10-year-old mare were found in a 130 acre pasture (not terribly isolated; people living nearby) about 50 feet apart. The WILLIAMSON COUNTY SUN reported that...

An autopsy was performed on the horses by a Round Rock veterinarian, who said the horses had been mutilated. He said he was unable to determine the cause of death. The veterinarian, Guy Rowland, told the Sun that the animals were killed, the eyes then removed, their tongues cut out and their sex organs sliced off. "The mutilations had been done after the horses were dead", Rowland said. He said he conducted a thorough examination of the horses and he could find no signs of starvation or disease.

He said the animals were killed by people. He estimated that the first horse had been dead for about 24 hours before it was discovered. The second animal had been dead for about 48 hours. Rowland speculated that the horses may have been drugged before they died. He added that he found evidence around the bodies that a struggle had occurred. "That was obvious around both horses", the veterinarian said. "This is the first time I've ever seen anything like this". Rowland's practice is centered entirely on horses. He has been a veterinarian for about five years, practicing in Round Rock for three and a half years.

There was little or no bleeding from either mare and Dr. Rowland told Project Stigma it was for this reason that he suspected the animals had been mutilated some time after death. On one animal - the mare - both eyes were taken, leaving "cleaned out", white eye sockets. In addition to the mutilation of the tongue and genitals, as reported by the newspaper, the rectal area was also damaged on the 7-months-pregnant mare. There was also evidence that the mare had a broken hip, according to Dr. Rowland. Only one eye was taken from the gelding, and there was a cut "around the penis", although it is unclear whether the penis was taken. The Austin, Texas, sheriff's office investigated. They would not discuss the case with the inquiring newspaper. As of June, 1985, they had never contacted Mrs. Grady regarding the results of their investigation. (WILLIAMSON COUNTY SUN; Georgetown, Texas; April 17, 1985. Credit: Walter H. Andrus, Jr.; Connie Grady; Guy Rowland, DVM)

On Saturday, July 6, 1985, a helicopter pilot flying over a farm near Keller, Tarrant County (near Fort Worth) saw the carcasses of approximately 50 cows of various sizes and ages, lying in a circle. Sheriff's deputies and the Humane Society of North Texas investigated, but no one could find the carcasses. A Society official said about 12 horse had been found dead and sexually mutilated in the Keller area in the preceding year. (FORT WORTH STAR-TELEGRAM; July 7 & 8, 1985. Credit: Philip White)

We have details on only one mutilation report from Canada in 1985 - certainly a far cry from the "peak" year for mutilations in Canada - 1979. The Moosehorn area of Manitoba lies between Lake Manitoba and Lake Winnipeg, about 100 miles north of the city of Winnipeg. A cow was killed under "suspicious circumstances" on a Moosehorn-area farm around Sunday, October 20, 1985, Wesley Cook and his son, Lyle, spent the weekend combining on their farm. They were still at it on Tuesday afternoon, October 22. Mrs. Wesley Cook was using binoculars to watch her husband, in case he became stuck while combining. At the same time, she used the binoculars to watch some calves, when she noticed a cow on the ground. She informed her husband, and, according to a Stonewall, Manitoba newspaper:

Cook called the RCMP that evening because he believed the cow had not died of natural causes. On Wednesday morning an RCMP officer arrived with Dr. L. Milin, the Ashern area veterinarian. Dr. Milin inspected the animal and reports, "Someone cut the throat of the animal and it bled out, then the tongue and udder were cut off". The dead cow was found in approximately the centre of an open field about 160 acres in size. There are roads on two sides of the field and the site is in plain view of roads and a farm site.

"We were combining practically around the clock all weekend", Cook said, "and on Saturday, we worked through until 5:30 Sunday morning. I saw some lights driving up and down the roads but at the time I never thought anything of it".

Wesley Cook told Project Stigma that he did not pay a lot of attention to the car lights, even though that road is rarely traveled, especially at night. Something else occurred that same night - Saturday night/Sunday morning. Every now and then, Wesley Cook noticed a "flicker" of light in a nearby field - as though from a flashlight being quickly turned on and off. On Tuesday, the cow was found just where the lights had been located that Sunday morning. More from the Stonewall newspaper:

When asked what they thought had happened, Wesley Cook explained, "I believe that someone is doing a demonic ritual, killing and taking the tongue, udder and blood for an occult ritual". Lyle Cook, Wesley's son and farm partner, agreed. "It's got to be something haywire like that because if they were rustling beef, they would have taken some choice cuts of beef".

When RCMP officers were asked if there was any connection between this kill and four others which happened in 1982 and were described in a similar way by some area residents, RCMP spokesman for the Ashern detachment said, "No, there is no connection because all the rest died of natural causes". The dead animals in 1982 were found between July and October with locations as far apart as Peonan Point and Siglunes. Records of the 1982 incidents show the causes of death as natural and mutilations on those carcasses were caused by scavengers, coyotes, wolves, skunks and birds. When asked for a statement regarding the dead Cow on Cook's pasture, the RCMP spokesman stated, "We can't determine foul play but we can't rule it out either."

Wesley Cook told Project Stigma that, despite the throat of the 8-to-10-year-old cow having been cut, there was no evidence of bleeding nor blood on the ground. When asked if he thought it was possible that the cow could have been cut upon elsewhere and then deposited at the site, Cook said he felt certain that the animal just fell and stayed where she was found. The veterinarian, Dr. Milin, noting the lack of blood on the ground, decided to have a look at the animal's heart. He cut out the heart and cut it open. There was no blood in the heart. (STONEWALL ARGUS/TEULON TIMES; Stonewall, Manitoba; October 30, 1985. Credit: Denis Corneau)

UNITED KINGDOM - WALES

On one night in May, 21 lambs were found dead under unusual circumstances on two farms at Tywyn, South Gwynedd, Wales. The farms were owned by Mr. Richard Lewis and Major Norman Corbett. On one side of each of the lambs' carcasses was a puncture wound the size of a 10p coin (about the size of a U.S. half dollar). Apparently, in the month of May, approximately 120 sheep were killed in the same manner in the area. Only one kind of lamb was targeted: white Welsh ewes. Brown and off-white lambs and male lambs were apparently ignored. It was revealed that Major Corbett and other area farmers had found other dead lambs in 1984 - each with the same round puncture wound. The lamb deaths stopped abruptly in October 1984 but began again in May 1985. It is not known whether any necropsies or other analyses were conducted. (SUNDAY EXPRESS; May 2, 1985; NATIONAL EXAMINER; July 2, 1985. Credit: David Taylor)

Mr. David Taylor was also kind enough to provide us with the following item from the DAILY MAIL, September 21, 1985:

In September 1985 the savagely mutilated bodies of 100 animals and birds were found on the mid-Glamorgan refuse tip at Maesycwmmwr in Wales. The grisly collection in plastic bags included goat hooves, fox heads, canaries, budgies, badgers, moles, hares and stoats. There were no vivisection laboratories in the area, and an official said that they would not experiment with protected species like badgers anyway.

ANIMAL MUTILATIONS IN NORTH AMERICA

PRELIMINARY FINDINGS BY A GROUP OF FRENCH SCIENTISTS

by JEAN SIDER

J. Sider, the writer of this article, was contacted late in 1983 by a team of scientists working in French universities and state agencies, in order to obtain a maximum of credible clues about animal mutilation cases reported in some states of the U.S.A. and several provinces of Canada. Previously, the writer had gathered an important file of newsclippings about these kinds of incidents, obtained in particular with the kindness of Mr. Tom Adams, American private researcher specializing in animal mutilation affairs. The purposes of these French scientists were based upon a sociolog-

ical and historial study of these incidents in order to verify the possible revival of ancient cults in North America practising ritual ceremonies with organs of animals, on the one hand, and on the other hand, to analyse the impact of these events and their perception by all the parties concerned with these incidents, in order to see if a new modern myth was developing in North America.

The writer began an attempt by mail to gather a maximum of data such as police reports, necropsy reports, and so on - and up to now, more than 600 potential American and Canadian correspondents have been contacted. Alas, we have seen immediately with the first answers that we have received, that a sort of wall of diverse obstructions has appeared before us. For different reasons, most of our potential correspondents refused or eluded our requests for assistance, or more simply did not answer our letters.

Of these 600 letters, we have received about 100 answers, of which maybe thirty contained copies of various more-or-less credible documents, such as those described above. Among those correspondents agreeing to give us their assistance, there are several county sheriffs (four from Colorado), University Colleges of Veterinary Medicine (among them: Colo.State Univ., Fort Collins) and also several state police agencies (such as the Colorado Bureau of Investigation). We have also solicited the help of some state Governors. The Honourable Richard D. Lamm, Governor of Colorado, was probably the most co-operative American high official to help us in our research. Unfortunately, the information obtained from the Colorado Bureau of Investigations (CBI) through the kindness of Governor Lamm, are without great interest in our study.

In spite of these difficulties, we have made some preliminary findings which are of interest. The first discovery was the fact that neither satanic cults nor other pseudo-religious underground groups were responsible for all of these incidents. It was a material impossibility. We have checked this point out with several American & Canadian sociologists, and have ruled out the existence of rituals of this kind among such groups, involving the handling of very heavy animals, sometimes weighing several hundred pounds.

Our second finding concerns state veterinarians working for state departments of agriculture or livestock boards. Despite numerous requests for documents from these agencies, we have never obtained so much as one necropsy report, as if this type of document was top-secret information. The rare state veterinarians who answered our letters always denied the existence of livestock mutilations by humans. But as we have obtained necropsy records from other sources, in which it is stated that a sharp instrument is used - some of these coming precisely from these same state departments of agriculture or livestock boards - that means that these state veterinarians have written inaccurate assertions. The same thing occurred involving two heads of animal science diagnostic laboratories of state universities (1).

The third finding concerns the "official" investigators especially appointed to inquire into the cattle mutilations in some states. Not only have they not conducted serious investigations, but their thought processes have been

curious. For instance, Mr. Carl Whiteside of the CBI in Denver was appointed in 1975 to investigate cattle mutilation cases in Colorado. But in spite of this official commission, the CBI never conducted an investigation in situ; in other words - in the field. The three CBI experts conducting examinations of samples of hide from mutilated animals were not graduates in animal pathology, an enormous lacuna in this instance.

Another typical example: In 1979 several Canadian areas, including Alberta, were subjected to these type of incidents. A special investigator was appointed to inquire into these affairs: Corporal Lyn Lauber of the famous Royal Canadian Mounted Police. Please note: a simple corporal to conduct a special investigation, which meant many things to our group. Corporal Lauber gave numerous statements to the media. In February 1980, he stated that 150 cases had been reported to the RCMP. Of this number, 13 were confirmed "classic mutilations", perpetrated almost in a surgical manner. 12 cases were "copy-cats", done in rough fashion. In these 25 cases, the cause of death was not determined. 13 other cases were "possible" mutilations, but the cause of death was natural and identified. The "classic mutilations" were attributed to "cults"; the "copy cats" to pranksters excited by the media coverage. But later, in June 1980 (curiously, just after the disclosure of the final conclusions of another "official" investigator, former FBI agent Kenneth Rommel in New Mexico) the RCMP claimed that all the so-called mutilations were the result of damage by predatory animals. We have written two requests for information to the RCMP: one to the "K" Division, Edmonton, and the other to the superintendent, Calgary. We have received two answers, entirely negative, of course, in which the culprits were named: predatory animals. Most curious was the fact that both texts were rigorously identical. For us, it was an evidence of collusion in an effort to dissimulate some embarrassing facts.

In the U.S.A., the thought processes of some police agencies was much the same. Almost all of the investigators first claimed that "satanic cults" were responsible for the animals' deaths. Then, suddenly, these policemen, without adequate explanation, accused predatory animals. For us, this behavior indicated that there was something wrong somewhere.

Our fourth finding, probably the most important of all, relates to a new behavior of predators and scavengers invented by several American scientists - in particular by some state veterinarians who have not hesitated to give inaccurate statements to oblige some "official" investigators such as Kenneth Rommel. A great act of dishonesty has been perpetrated, and it is very easy to prove it. According to all the French and American experts in wildlife that we have consulted, the following should be noted regarding predatory and scavenging animals:

- (1) There are no predatory and scavenging animals in the world having the ability to make cuts as straight and smooth as a sharp instrument, such as knife, scalpel, scissors. The animals have neither the physical means nor the intelligence to act in such a manner.
- (2) When predatory and scavenging animals are feeding on the carcass of a large mammal (whether dead of natural causes or killed by humans), they begin by tearing into the abdomen, first devouring the viscera, particular-

ly the digestive viscera, then the muscular masses. They have no special attraction for the sex organs, the ears and the lips, and they are not in the habit of cutting out precise sections of hide without taking out the good flesh below. On the contrary, they prefer the flesh over the hide.

(3) There are several species of predators and scavengers in the areas of the incidents. These species come one after another to feed on a carcass. A carcass is generally devoured within 12 to 36 hours after death. This depends on various factors: abundance of particular species, the distance from human presence, the climate and temperature, and so on. Generally, after 48 hours, a carcass is usually cleaned to the bones.

All persons, whoever they may be, having claimed that predators and scavengers were able to duplicate cuts made by surgical tools, have not respected the scientific knowledge on this manner, and they have acted with dishonesty. For those interested in scientific works in this field, we would suggest: Procedures for Evaluating Predation on Livestock and Wildlife by Drs. Dale A. Wade and James E. Bowns, 1981, published jointly by the Texas Agricultural Extension Service, the Texas Agricultural Experiment Station and the Texas A&M University system, under the auspices of the United States Fish and Wildlife Service, Department of the Interior. Additionally, we have consulted with the best French specialists, including Professor A.L. Parodi, head of the Animal Pathological Anatomy Department at the National Veterinary School of Alfort, near Paris, the only school of this kind in France. All of our American and French consultants are in agreement with the three points above regarding the behavior of predators and scavengers. We submitted to our consultants a set of photographs showing cattle mutilated in various states of the U.S. A State Veterinarian belonging to a state livestock board in a northern state claimed that the pictures indicated damage by predatory animals. But all of our consultants have assured our group that the wounds depicted on these photos were made with a sharp instrument.

We still have an important lack of data. For instance, we have not obtained a single report from some of the Colorado County sheriff departments who became very involved in mutilation affairs. We received a reply from the El Paso County Sheriff's Department, in which a Lieutenant Jere T. Joiner stated: "All reports from 1975 are on microfilm and are unable to be extracted without a case report number". Later on, we obtained several case report numbers from Mr. Carl Whiteside of the CBI in Denver. These were relative to incidents occurring in El Paso County. We sent these numbers in another letter to Lt. Joiner. We never received a reply, in spite of a third letter to the County Sheriff, Bernard J. Barry.⁽²⁾ Another example is a reply we received from the sheriff of Logan County, Colorado, Donald Bollish: "At that time I was not sheriff and when I took office all records were taken with Mr. Tex Graves when he left office". From Douglas County, Mr. Robert M. Kraus, Chief of Operations: "My denial of your request is based on a fire that totally burned the sheriff's department records and office in 1977". But later on, we found that there was a case reported after that year, on September 10, 1982. In a letter dated April 17, 1985, Sheriff Steve Zotos told us: "I have checked the computer records kept in this office and I have been unable to find any report having been made".

With some states, including Kansas, Nebraska, South Dakota, Texas and others,

numerous letters were sent to state police agencies, and even to their attorneys general and governors. We never received letters from these agencies, not even perfunctory courtesy replies. This makes it difficult for our group to gain an understanding of the situations that developed in the areas where these events were occurring. In spite of this, we have succeeded in gathering a good file containing more than 100 police reports and about 50 necropsy reports, with most coming from private veterinarians and colleges of veterinary medicine at state universities. We also have 5 necropsy reports from state veterinarians (state departments of agriculture and state livestock boards). This data has allowed our group to make some observations, including the following:

(1) Many police reports claim that there was no blood on or around the carcasses, leading to the assumption that all the blood had been drained off by the mutilators. This appears to have occurred in rare cases, but this is generally not an accurate assumption. We have noted that, in almost all cases, the animal had been dead several hours before being mutilated. In reality, the blood had clotted in the viscera, arteries and veins. Consequently, the fact that no hemorrhagic effusion occurred is explainable. Moreover, we have noted that in several cases the animal was probably killed by a strong electric output (by lightning or by artificial means). Except perhaps for some burns, the cause of death is not evident for police investigators. We have several cases in our files with burns on the carcass. Also, a death by lightning or other artificial electrical means causes a rapid blood clotting in the carcass.

(2) We have noted that in several cases there are indications that the animal was displaced in an upward movement, then in a downward movement, as though somebody or something had lifted up the animal. However, we do not have sufficient data to draw a conclusion on this point. Indeed, as we have noted, it is possible that pranksters were active during some of these events. Some of them (perhaps even helicopter pilots from the USAF, one never knows) may have perpetrated hoaxes to mystify policemen and ranchers. We have noted in some reports that policemen have found tracks on the ground much like those of a landed helicopter. This might explain some cases where the feet or limbs of the animal were broken or dislocated. Certainly this is all a hypothesis only, not an affirmation.

Our first conclusions will be very limited and circumspect. There are probably good explanations in most of the cases, but the curious behavior of some "official" investigators and state veterinarians have helped to give these incidents an aura of mystery. Veritably, the question is not: Who were the mutilators (because they probably will never be identified, be they prankster, madmen, farmers taking revenge or making insurance claims, and so on)? But rather the question is: Why have authorities in some states exhibited behavior incompatible with their duty, having created an atmosphere of suspicion, making rather sad statements without facing the reality of a situation which seemed to be beyond them?

Footnotes:

(1) There are always exceptions. Following the completion of the report above, I have received two necropsy reports from the Utah Department of Ag-

riculture, and three from the Arkansas Livestock Board, these last being obtained from another agency different from the one with which they originated.

(2) A few weeks after the completion of this report, I received six reports from the El Paso County (Colorado) Sheriff's Office, the six reports matching the case numbers obtained from Mr. Carl Whiteside. But these reports provide poor documentation and little of scientific interest. I think that these case numbers were provided by the CBI in Denver because of their lack of evidence. Almost one hundred reports of cattle mutilation have been recorded by the El Paso County Sheriff's Office between mid-1975 and 1982.

(3) The fact that they suddenly modified their point of view about these incidents, without the least apparent reason, indicates that most likely orders, from a superior level, were given to stop the investigations. This is a supposition only. But in blaming predatory animals, there were no more human mutilators to arrest.

Project Stigma End Notes

Livestock mutilations in 1986 have occurred in such states as Alabama, New Mexico (Rio Arriba County, naturally), South Dakota, Washington and Kentucky. Details will be provided in STIGMATA No. 24, which we are planning as a separate publication in 1986.

Please share any potentially-mutilation-related news you may come across with us. Also, we would like to ask if any readers have info to share regarding any of the following:

(1) An "outrageous" film titled "Cattle Mutilations" by George Kuchar. (2) the "mysterious deaths" of 100 pigs on a farm in Dane County, Wisconsin (no date). (3) Rumors of animal mutilations and black, unidentified helicopters in the vicinity of the sensitive U.S./Australian "Pine Gap" installation Down Under. (4) A cattle mutilation near Kingman, Kansas in October 1967. (5) Livestock mutilations somewhere along the Arizona/New Mexico border in 1985 and/or 1986.

In May 1985, 74 cattle were killed during Army war games at Fort Hunter Liggett, California.....Odessa, Texas college professor Gayland Hurst says there may be 10,000 "devil worshippers" in Texas.....Cleburne, Texas: A murder trial defendant was prompted to confess his guilt after watching a "very gross" movie: "Endangered Species".....Protomorphogins or "glandulars", the ground-up glands of cattle, are being consumed by some nutrition-minded humans. These goodies must be properly refined, though, or one's own glands will be prevented from producing hormones.

NOTE TO SUBSCRIBERS: Anyone who subscribed to both CRUX (#2) and STIGMATA (#23) this year will have their subscriptions extended into next year.

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